

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

ERDA-05 SS-15 NSC-05 /066 W
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R 171755Z MAR 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 674
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT

S E C R E T USNATO 1464

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC
SUBJECT: NPG STAFF GROUP MEETING- MARCH 14

REF: A. USNATO 1441
B. USNATO 1198

BEGIN SUMMARY: AT MARCH 14 MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP HELD
PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF RESULTS OF WINTEX-75 EXERCISE.
SG REPS RAISED NUMBER OF SUBJECTS FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN AN
NPG PERM REPS REPORT FOR MINISTERS, INCLUDING PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED
WITH INITIAL AND DEMONSTRATIVE USE, LESSONS FOR FOLLOW-ON
USE, LESSONS FOR COMMUNICATING NATO'S INTENTIONS, IMPLICATIONS
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS, GOVERNMENT PROPOSALS TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS,
AND POSSIBLE USE OF REQUESTS FOR PRE-CONDITIONED RELEASE
AUTHORITY. IS PLANS TO ISSUE NEXT WEEK A FIRST DRAFT OF PERM REPS
REPORT ON WINTEX-75. TURKISH REP SUPPORTED BELGIAN PROPOSAL
TO INCREASE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER DELEGATION IN
NPG MINISTERIAL SESSIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MARCH 14 MEETING, NPG STAFF GROUP HELD PRELIMINARY DIS-
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CUSSION OF RESULTS OF WINTEX-75. SG CHAIRMAN (SHEARER) CALLED
ATTENTION TO IS NOTE(NPG(STAFF GROUP)N(74)119, DATED DEC 13,1974)
WHICH IDENTIFIED WINTEX-75 AS A POSSIBLE ITEM ON SPRING NPG
MINISTERIAL AGENDA. HE THOUGHT WINTEX-75 PROVIDED AMPLE MATERIAL

OF INTEREST TO MINISTERS, AND SAID IS WOULD PREPARE A DRAFT NPG PERM REPS REPORT FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION BY SG AT NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 21. HE SOLICITED SUGGESTIONS FOR ITEMS THAT THE DRAFT MIGHT COVER.

2. PRINCIPAL SUBJECTS RAISED IN COURSE OF SG DISCUSSION FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN DRAFT NPG PERM REPS REPORT INCLUDED:

A. PROBLEMS ON TIMING, LOCATION, AND SCOPE OF INITIAL USE IN CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH MULTIPLE REQUESTS FOR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE IN PLAY.

B. RELATED TO ABOVE, CLARIFICATION OF PURPOSE OF DEMONSTRATIVE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

C. LESSONS FOR FOLLOW-ON USE.

D. LESSONS FOR COMMUNICATING NATO'S INTENTIONS TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS (CNI).

E. IMPLICATIONS OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS.

F. PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH A PROPOSAL FROM A GOVERNMENT TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

G. USE OF SIERRA (PRE-CONDITIONED RELEASE AUTHORITY) VS. ROMEO RELEASE REQUEST MESSAGES.

3. SEVERAL REPS (UK, FRG, CANADA) CALLED PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO CONFUSION IN DPC DISCUSSIONS ON CNI. UK REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES THOUGHT THAT THIS EXPERIENCE BORE OUT THEIR CONCERN EXPRESSED DURING PREPARATION OF THE NPG STUDY ON CNI (NPG/STUDY/46) AND THE ASSOCIATED PERM REPS REPORT (NPG/D(74)10), THAT NATO NEEDS CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF REQUIRED ACTIONS BY NATO IN (1) COMMUNICATING EXPLANATIONS TO THE ENEMY IN CONJUNCTION WITH EXECUTION OF STRIKES, AND (2) COMMUNICATING WARNINGS TO THE ENEMY BEFORE STRIKES ARE CARRIED OUT. DANISH REP (JENSEN)
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RAISED QUESTION OF APPROPRIATE RESPONSES BY NATO TO CHEMICAL ATTACKS. HE SAID DANISH PROPOSALS IN WINTEX-75 REFLECTED DESIRE TO CONVEY PURE POLITICAL MESSAGE OF WARNINGS TO ORANGE. HE SAID IN THEIR VIEW IT WAS UP TO MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO DEFINE TARGETS FOR NUCLEAR STRIKES TO BACK UP SUCH WARNING. SEVERAL REPS NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT A GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL CONCERNING POSSIBLE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS COULD, AND POSSIBLY SHOULD, BE MORE SPECIFIC. SG CHAIRMAN NOTED QUESTION RAISED BY SUG LUNS DURING THE EXERCISE CONCERNING APPROPRIATENESS OF LIMITED STRATEGIC OPTIONS IN CONNECTION WITH DANISH PROPOSAL FOR THREAT OF NUCLEAR STRIKES ON "ORANGE BLOC TERRITORY." SEVERAL SG REPS QUESTIONED APPROPRIATENESS OF SUCH STRIKES IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DANISH PROPOSAL IN THE EXERCISE. THEY THOUGHT THAT CONSIDERA-

TION OF THIS SUBJECT, IF ANY, SHOULD BE FOLDED INTO QUESTION
OF GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL TO USE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

4. NETHERLANDS REP (VAN VALDEREN) SAID HIS AUTHORITIES HAVE
DOUBTS, WHICH NETHERLANDS REPS HAVE EXPRESSED IN THE COEC,
AND ELSEWHERE, CONCERNING DESIRABILITY OF LIVE DPC/MC
PLAY IN EXERCISES LIKE WINTEX. HE SAID THAT HIS AUTHORITIES
RECOGNIZE THE NEED FOR EDUCATION AND DIALOGUE BY NATO POLITICAL
AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES ON NUCLEAR POLICIES AND CONSULTATION
PROCEDURES, BUT FEEL THAT THIS MIGHT BE ACCOMPLISHED IN OTHER
WAYS. IS POINTED OUT THAT NETHERLANDS REP EXPRESSED THIS VIEW
IN COEC ON PRECEEDING DAY, BUT THAT OTHER COEC REPS THOUGHT THAT
LIVE DPC/MC PLAY WAS VALUABLE AND SHOULD BE SUPPORTED IN THE
FUTURE.

5. TURKISH REP (SUNGAR) REPEATED A STATEMENT DELIVERED ON THE
PREVIOUS DAY IN THE COEC CONCERNING NON-PARTICIPATION OF TURKEY
IN WINTEX-75. STATEMENT TRANSMITTED TO WASHINGTON IN REF A.

6. TURKISH REP SAID HIS AUTHORITIES SUPPORTED BELGIAN PROPOSAL
(REF B, PARA 5) TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH
DELEGATION PARTICIPATING IN NPG MINISTERIAL SESSIONS. COMMENT:
MISSION REQUESTED GUIDANCE ON BELGIAN PROPOSAL IN REF B. IF
WASHINGTON WISHES TO OPPOSE INCREASING PARTICIPATION IN NPG
SESSIONS, WE SHOULD WEIGH IN SOON IN ORDER TO BRING TO A HALT
ANY MOMENTUM THAT COULD DEVELOP BEHIND BELGIAN PROPOSAL.
END COMMENT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 18 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NATO001464
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750398/abbrziuh.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. USNATO 1441 B. USNATO 1198
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <08 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NPG STAFF GROUP MEETING- MARCH 14
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USLOSACLANT
CINCLANT
Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006